

DRAFT

MOTION

WHEREAS, Howard and Jewel Drollinger are unfortunately no longer with us, but illustrations of their support and dedication live on. Their lifetime of service and leadership will impact the Westchester community for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, The Drollingers had a tremendous impact on the history and development of Westchester. They helped transform a land full of bean fields and dirt roads into a thriving residential and business community. Building on the legacy of Howard's Mother Ella, Howard and Jewel helped give birth to downtown Westchester; and

WHEREAS, by the mid-1950s, thanks to the Drollingers' efforts, Westchester's Central Business District was featured in Life Magazine as a flourishing commercial district that was helping the surrounding residential area take root in the wake of World War II. When Fox Hills Mall opened in Culver City and LAX expanded in 1975, many business owners and home owners fled. As the area took a turn for the worse and boarded-up shops started consuming the Sepulveda Boulevard corridor, the Drollingers took it upon themselves to redevelop and revitalize the blighted area; and

WHEREAS, as upstanding civic leaders and philanthropists, the Drollingers donated millions of dollars to local community organizations. Their contributions had a huge effect on the community, from feeding the hungry and providing educational materials to local schools to providing services for the mentally ill and recreational opportunities for adults and children. The Drollingers were also longtime contributors and supporters of the Union Rescue Mission, Westchester Family YMCA, Westchester/LAX-Marina del Rey Chamber of Commerce, Loyola Marymount, Airport Marina Counseling Service and local youth sports teams and schools; and

WHEREAS, in addition, their generous donations through the Westchester Rotary Foundation assisted in sending young scholars to other countries for educational purposes, clothing underprivileged children, repairing the local fire station, teaching students to read, removing graffiti and many other initiatives. Howard's contributions to Rotary International helped to promote international projects, including the organization's goal of eradicating polio from the entire planet; and

WHEREAS, these Westchester pioneers always put their community first - whether it was by fighting LAX expansion, spearheading economic development, or lending their time and resources to community beautification projects; and

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council dedicate the community room in the Westchester Municipal building as the “Howard and Jewel Drollinger Memorial Community Room” as a testament to their fifty year pursuit of excellence for the Westchester Community and the City of Los Angeles.

PRESENTED BY _____
BILL ROSENDAHL
Councilman, 11th District

SECONDED BY _____